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FIELD GUIDE TO THE SHELLED GASTROPODA OF ROCKY SHORES

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INTRODUCTION

The gastropod molluscs are the most varied and abundant animals of our rocky shores and are morcover those which arouse the greatest general interest among naturalists. Much of this interest has attached to the larger and more eonspicuous shells belonging to a few families such as the cowries and volutes, and these are relatively well known. On the other hand the common species, which form by far the greater part of the fauna, are little known. They are often inconspieuous and devoid of the brillianee of eolouring and obvious beauty of form that is the faseination of the rarer forms. However, it is just because of their abundance and dominance in the fauna of the rocky shores that these species are of interest to the serious naturalist, Large areas may be populated by a single species of gastropod or by an association of two or three. A succession of species dominate the fauna at different levels in the intertidal belt, and while many are found only on apparently bare rocks others are confined to the weed beds which cover great areas of the reefs, others again will only be found under loose stones on the reef surface. Each has its own preferred habitat. Much of the interest and importance of littoral biology depends on the recognition of the habitats of individual species.

This key has been prepared in order to help naturalists to recognise the principal species that live on the reefs, and is limited to species found in the warm-temperature waters between Geraldton and Cape Leeuwin. Gastropoda are classified mainly on internal structures of the soft parts and no satisfactory general key for their identification can be prepared using the shells alone. However, since we have confined ourselves to the fauna of a particular environment, within a restricted geographical range, it has been possible to construct a workable key for the identification of the species included. Moreover, while this is not a reliable key to the families it will generally be found a satisfactory guide to the true relationships of local species which, although not included in the key, may occasionally turn up on the reefs.

The key is intended for use with living animals and obvious features of the soft parts are employed. Fresh shells can generally be identified if the diagrams are used with discretion. Users must be warned, however, that reliance on the diagrams alone, excellent as they are, will almost inevitably lead to wrong identifications. Two other limitations should be noted. Marine shells are often much croded or overgrown with an enerustation of coralline algae and the diagnostic features obscured. In a few species the shells of the young animal may be very different in form from that of the mature animal. A more extreme example is that of the common cowrie (Ravitrona caputserpentis), the juvenile of which has a shell more like that of Quibulla. The key applies only to shells of mature animals. Approximate sizes are indicated by the measurements given; there is of course much variation.

Anyone who has worked with marine gastropods will be well aware of the eonfusion that exists in the nomenclature and classification of the group. We have done our best to ensure that the names used are "eorreet"; inevitably some will not be those familiar to collectors and clearly no finality can be claimed for the names or classification employed.

We hope that by making it easier to identify the common gastropods, the publication of this key will stimulate an interest in these animals. There are many biological problems relating to them that call for eareful investigation; the limits of their geographical distribution are not well known, very little is known of their breeding either in regard to season or the existence or otherwise of pelagic larval stages, and although the normal habitats of most species are known their relationship to other organisms in those habitats is little understood.

Habitats

Rocky shore habitats may conveniently be classified under the first six headings listed below, to which are added "sandy bottom" and "pelagie" since certain animals characteristic of these habitats are frequently found on the reefs. The type of habitat in which the animals listed normally occur are indicated in the key by the appropriate abbreviation.

Spl. Splash zone, above high water.

Int. Intertidal rocks, above the reef flat.

Alg. Among leafy algae on the reef flat.

Ro. Bare rock or enerusting algae on the reef flat.

Sub. Sublittoral, below low water.

St. Under stones on the reef flat.

Sd. Sandy bottoms.

Pel. Pelagie.

GLOSSARY OF TECHNICAL TERMS

'Anterior. The front end. The head of the animal emerges near the siphon canal, the spire is posterior (at the back end). In limpets the shell apex is usually nearer the anterior end.

Calcareous. Composed of lime.

Columella. Central axis of shell.

Ctentdium. True gill in mantle eavity.

Discoidal. Whorls lying in one plane.

Fusiform. Spindle-shaped, tapering to both ends.

Lamellae. Thin plates.

Mantle. Soft skin covering the internal organs. This secretes the shell and is produced into flaps which may be reflected over the shell. An inpushing of the mantle at the anterior end forms the mantle eavity.

Ovate. Egg-shaped.

Operculum. Plate closing the aperture.

Periostracum. Horny layer covering living shell in some species, e.g., Mayena.

Plait. Prominent spiral fold in the columella, as in Volutidae.

Porcellanous. Like porcelain.

Protoconch. Embryonie spire persisting at apex of shell.

Reflected. Turned backwards.

Siphon. Tubular prolongation of mantle edge to bring water to mantle eavity.

Siphon canal. Groove or tube in shell aperture which accommodates the siphon.

Strine. Very fine lines.

Tetragonal. Four sided.

Tubercle. Small knob.

Turbinate. Top-shaped, e.g., Senectus.

Umbilicus. Hollow axis in base of certain shells.

Varix. Prominent ridge formed on outer lip; may be dissolved away before further growth or persist as in Mayena.

Whorl. One complete spiral. Body whorl. The last whorl with the aperture.

ILLUSTRATIONS

Most of the species mentioned in the key which follows are figured in the plates accompanying the text. Those species illustrated are marked by capital letters in black type, the letters corresponding to the figures in the plate opposite.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Many of the shells used in the preparation of this key were kindly identified for us by Mr. B. C. Cotton of the South Australian Museum. We are greatly indebted to Miss J. Hope Maepherson, of the National Museum of Vietoria, for her help and advice in the preparation of the key. The responsibility for any errors is entirely ours. Aeknowledgment is also made of a research grant from the University of Western Australia.

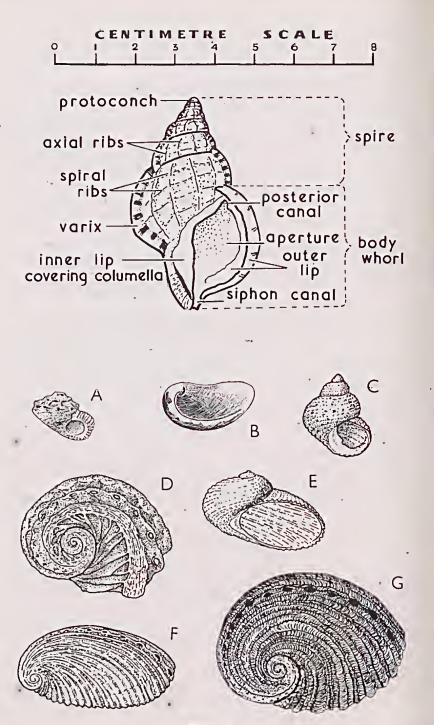


Plate 1

KEY

Shel	l naereous (pearly) internally Section I	
Shel	I not nacreous:	
	Shell without a spire; may be eonieal, horn-shaped, or flat- tened; aperture covers whole of lower surface Section II	
	Spire evident Section III	
	Spire enclosed by body whorl (involute) Section IV	
1	SECTION I	
1.	With an operculum 3	
2.	Opereulum heavy, calcareous, with thin horny layer internally Fam. TURBINIDAE. See Section III, No. 5	5
	Operculum horny, eircular, thin. Shell variable in shape; conical subglobular or turbinate Fam. TROCHIDAE	5
	Operculum horny with a calcareous layer of pearly particles spirally arranged. Shell very small, turbinate or discoidal	
	light eoloured Fam. LIOTIIDAE Mundita botanica. 0.5 cm. Seulpturing a fine network)
	Sub A	
	Pseudoliota peronii. 1 em. Prominent ribs and tubereles.	
3.	Shell completely covers body when retracted Fam. STOMATIIDAR	s
	. Gena auricula. 1.5 cm. Shell brownish, variable in colour Sub I	
4.	Shell rounded, ridged, without holes Fam. STOMATELLIDAN Stomatella imbricata. 3 em. Spire depressed; shell sand	2
	eoloured. Sub 1	Ξ
	Herpetopoma aspersa. 1.5 cm. Spire elevated; shell sand coloured with some brown or pink patterning. Sub	_
,	Shell with small spire, body whorl large and depressed, a row	V
	of holes along left side. Ear shells Fam. HALIOTIDAL Haliotis roci. 9 em. Shell pink, animal green; ribbing coars (often very eroded). Ro	e
	H. scalaris, 8 cm. Shell pink, with prominent spiral ridge	s
	and radiating lamellae. Sub. St 1	D.
	H. elegans. 7 cm. Shell mottled orange; ribbing moderatel fine. Sub.	F
	H. squamata. 7 cm. Shell brown with irregular pale radiating bands; ribbing finer than in H. elegans. Sub.	-
	H. vixlirata. 15 cm. Shell pink with darker mottling ribbing very fine. Sub.	;;

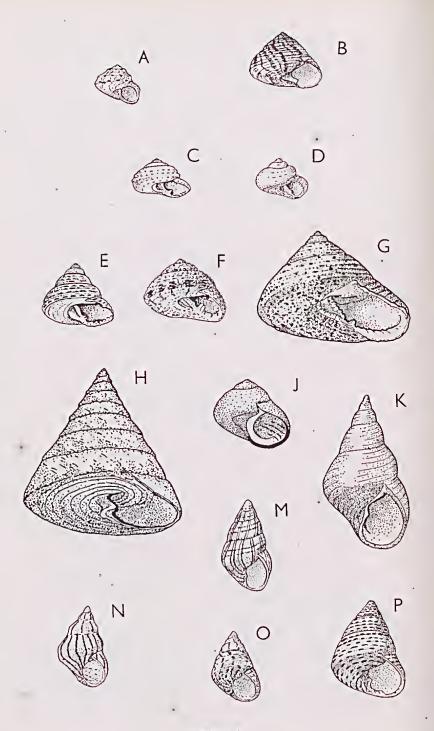
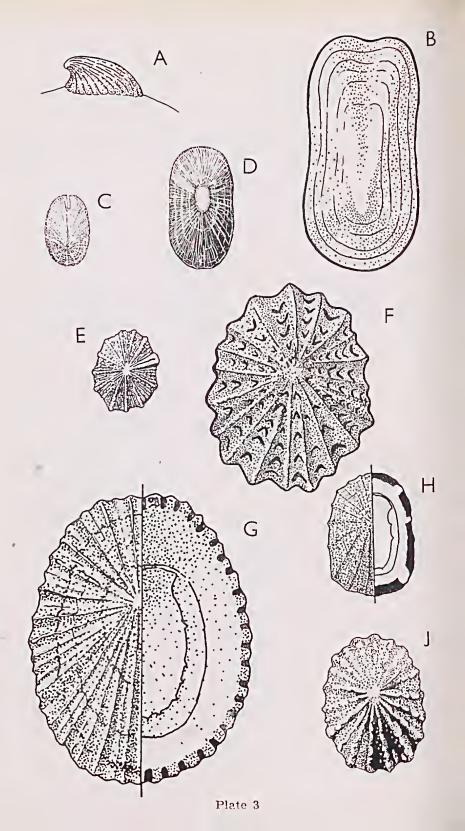


Plate 2

Fam. TROCHIDAE

5.	With umbilieus 6 Without umbilieus 7
6.	Aperture smooth: Gibbula preissiana. 1 em. Shell with two spiral ribs to each whorl; fine brown lines and spots. Alg
	G. lehmani. 1 em. Whorls more rounded; base patterned in red, spire in black and red. Alg. Tallopia callifera, 1.5 em. Many spiral ribs; irregular radiating brown lines
	Aperture toothed: Clanculus consobrinus, 1 em. Shell with fine spiral ribs and tubercles; reddish-brown with dark fleeks C
	C. denticulatus. 1 em. Similar to above, but without dark fleeks
	C. personatus. 1.5 cm. Ribs and tubercles coarse, base of shell somewhat flattened; inner lip with prominent double tooth. Pinkish-brown mottling on white F
	C. limbatus. 2 cm. Tubercles finer, base of shell with an angular margin; prominent double tooth. Fawn eoloured with darker blotches E
	C. occidiuus. 3 cm. Tubereles fine; inner lip with prominent single tooth. Pale brown with reddish fleeks G
7.	Shell heavy, angular, with broad flat base: .* Tectus obeliscus. 5 em. Alg. Sub
	Shell heavy, whorls rounded, margin of aperture black: Austrocochlea rudis. 2.5 cm. Int
	Shell without broad flat base or black margin to aperture 8
8.	
	Phasianotrochus eximius. 3 em. Shell brown K
	P. irisodontes. 1.5 em. Shell brownish with axial lines. (On sea grass) M
	Shell seulptured, rough: Prothallotia pulcherrima. 1.5 em. Shell reddish with green naere. Alg 0
	P. lelimani. 1.5 em. Shell with pattern of vertical lines. Alg N
	Thalotia conica. 2 em. Shell with reetangular reddish flecks, aperture toothed. Alg P
	Calliostoma interruptum. 1.5 cm. Shell grey-green with darker fleeks; base more flattened than preceding three species. (On sea grass.)



SECTION II

1.	Shell imperforate, conical, encloses animal. Limpets
2.	No siphon, ridging regular. True limpets3 Siphon present; siphonal canal shows as a double ridge on anterior right side of shell. Pulmonate limpets. Siphonaria luzonica. 1.5 cm. Shell with coarse ridges. Black flecks round edge of foot. Int
3.	Single ctenidium on left side (in mantle cavity). Shell is never iridescent within. Fam. ACMAEIDAE Patelloida alticostata. 3 cm. Strong ridges, black fleeks between ridges. Int. F. nigrosulcata. 3 cm. On shells. Notoacmea onychitis. 2 cm. Fine ridges, shell margin often black inside. Int. H. No true ctenidium, secondary gills attached to body between mantle and foot. Shell may be iridescent within Fam. PATELLIDAE Patellanax laticostata. 10 cm. Many simple ridges. Int. Ro. G. G. G. P. pcroni. 2.5 cm. Ridging coarse, tuberculate, or black and white striped. Int. Ro. J
	SECTION III
1.	No siphon canal or postcrior canal present 2 Siphon canal and/or postcrior canal present 11
2	Operculum present 3 Operculum absent 10
3	Operculum calcareous 4 Operculum horny 6

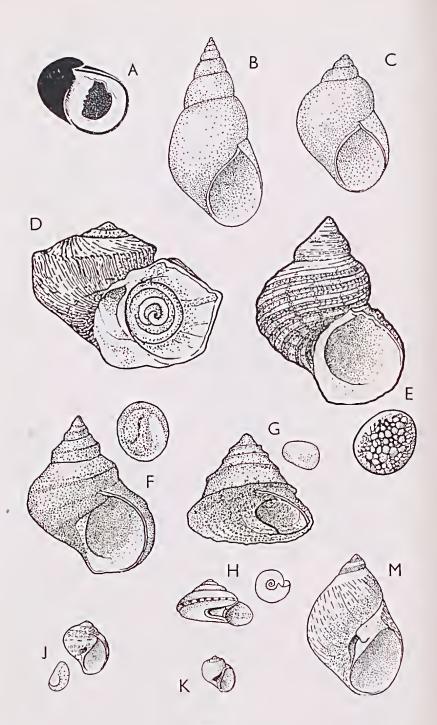


Plate 4

4.	Spire well developed; shell turbinate or pyramidal in shape 5 Spire very small, shell sub-globular in shape; shell poreellanous internally, generally thick; aperture semieireular. Opereulum forms a false hinge with inner lip Fam. NERITIDAE Melanerita melanotragus. 3 em. Shell and opereulum black, fairly smooth. Int
5.	Shell fairly thin, polished, variably coloured and patterned. Operculum oval
	thin horny layer internally
	mottling, seulptured with revolving ridges. Opereulum tubereulate. Alg E Dinassoviea jourdani. 15 em. Juvenile: shell orange to reddish brown, slightly ribbed. Adult: shell rich brown, smooth. Opereulum white, poreellanous. Alg. Sub F Bellastrea kesteveni. 3 cm. Spire low; base of shell flat, margin of last whorl produced into thin shelf-like projection. Operculum poreellanous, white. Shell sand coloured to white. Ro. Sub.
	Bellastrea sp. indet. 4 em. Spire high; base of shell flat. Operculum poreellanous, blue or white, shell sand eoloured. Sub G
6.	Shell irregularly eoiled Fam. VERMETIDAE Shell eoiled normally 7
7.	Shell with an umbilieus 8 Shell without an umbilieus 9
8.	Umbilieus wide and deep with eorrugated margins. Shell turbinate, with a flattened spire, or discoidal Fam. SOLARIIDAE
	Philippia lutea. 1.5 em. Shell brown, fairly smooth H
	Inner lip reflected over umbilieus. Shell with short spire, turbinate, sub-globular; smooth. Aperture entire, outer lip sharp
	Notocochlis sagittata. 1 cm. Shell white, nearly covered with fine brown pattern. St. Sd
	Uber conicum. 3 cm. Shell pale brown, paler spiral line.
	Friginatiea bcddomei. 1 cm. Shell white; a marked groove round top of whorls. Sd K

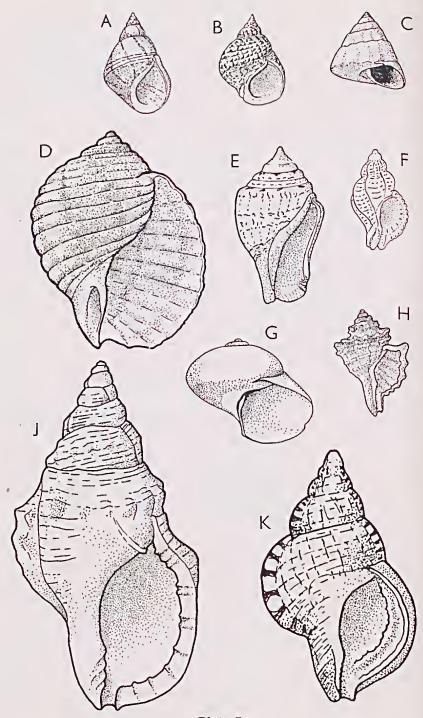


Plate 5

9.	Shell minute, thin, smooth, folded or spirally striate
	Diala varia, 0.5 em. Shell black. Alg. Shell of small to moderate size, turbinate or pyramidal; aperture rounded. Periwinkles
	Tectarius rugosus. 2 em. Shell fawn to bluish. Has revolving lines and may or may not have radiating folds or small tubereles. Spl
10.	Shell large, ovate or sub-globose. Spire short, body whorl very large with revolving ribs. Tun shells Fam. TONNIDAE Tonna variegata. 7 em. Shell yellow and brown with spiral ribs all equal. Sub
	Janthina violacea. 3 em. Shell flatter than J. globosa. Width is 1½ times height. Pel G
11	ture narrow; outer lip expanded, with a notch anteriorly. Shell variable in shape, ovate, turreted or fusiform Fam. STROMBIDAE Strombus floridus. 3 em. Shell patterned in alternate
	bands of light brown and speckled brown on a white ground; aperture pink inside. Alg. Ro E Opereulum otherwise, if present 12
12	2. Shell with variees and thickened or reflected outer lip 13 Shell without variees 14
18	3. Siphon eanal usually long, often elosed to form a tube. Shell often ornamented with ribs and spines. Shape fusiform with a moderately long spire. (The species listed here is somewhat atypical of the family)
	outer lip thickened exteriorly, toothed inside. Periostraeum persistent, thick

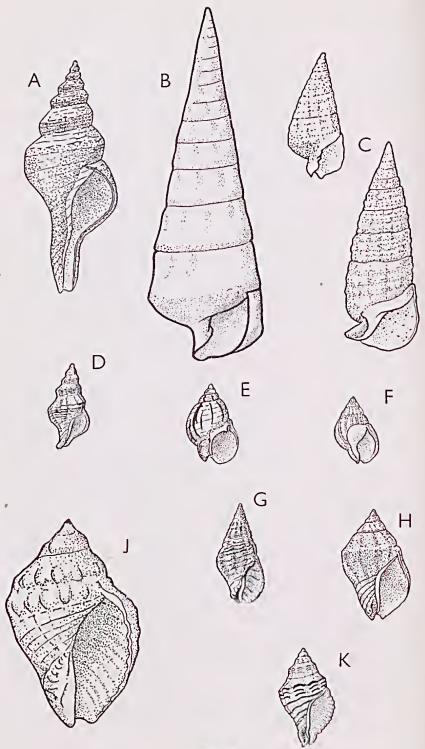


Plate 6

	furry periostracum (when fresh); varices 2 to a whort. Alg K (on Pl. 5) Cabestanimorpha tabulata. 2.5 em. Shell with prominent spiral ridges and tubercles; spire angular (varices not present in juveniles) H (on Pl. 5)
14.	Aperture (apart from siphon canal) rounded, not much longer than wide. Columella without plaits 15 Aperture clongate, length 2 or more times width 18
15.	Siphon canal short 16 Siphon canal long, as long as aperture or longer.
	Fam. COLIDAE Propefusus profundior. 6 cm. Shell brown, covered with furry periostracum. Ro
	Fam. TURBINELLIDAE
16.	Megalatractus aruanus. Shell very large, 25 cm. Sub. Spire more than twice height of body whorl; many whorls
	Fam. CERITHIDAE Campanile symbolicum. 12 cm. Spire has about 16 whorls. Shell white, fairly smooth. Alg. Sub. Vertagus asper, 4 cm. Spire has about 12 whorls. Shell cream coloured, sculptured with revolving lines of tubereles. Ro. C Spire less than twice height of body whorl 17
17.	Whorls and aperture rounded Fam. NASSARIIDAE Nassarius rufula. 2 cm. Shell smooth, fawn or brown, with a pattern of brown bands or lines. Alg. Sd E Parcanassa pauperata. 1.5 cm. Shell with axial ribs, brown, unicolorous. Sd F
	Fam. BUCCINIDAE Josepha tasmanica. 2 cm. Spire high, about equal to body whorl, angle about 40°. Sculpturing of axial ribs and fine spiral lines. Shell mottled brown. Sd
	Fam. THAIDIDAE Dicathais aegrota. 6 cm. Shell cream coloured, aperture darker. Shell marked with spiral lines and ribs, with or without tubereles. Int, Alg. Ro

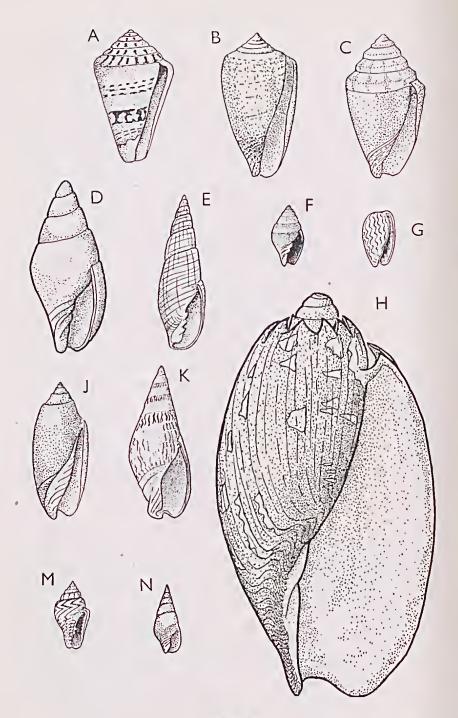


Plate 7

10.	is high 19
	Columella smooth, without plaits or teeth, aperture elongate, spire low (half or less length of aperture). Shell eovered with a smooth periostraeum
19.	Spire shorter than body whorl or if longer then columella laeks prominent folds 20 Spire equal to or longer than body whorl, eolumella with
	prominent folds Fam. MITRIDAE Mitra rosettae. 3 em. Shell brown smooth. Alg. D Proximitra pica. 1 em. Shell black and white with fine dark pattern on white parts. Alg. F Mitra glabra. 5 em. Brown with fine darker revolving lines E
20.	Aperture full height of shell, spire ineonspieuous
	Fam. MARGINELLIDAE Marginella pulchella. 0.7 em. Shell eream with fine brown pattern G Aperture not as above, spire evident 21
21.	Columella twisted with 3-5 plaits. Large body whorl with a simple outer lip. Spire short
	brown, may be patterned. Columella teeth not evident.
	Alg N

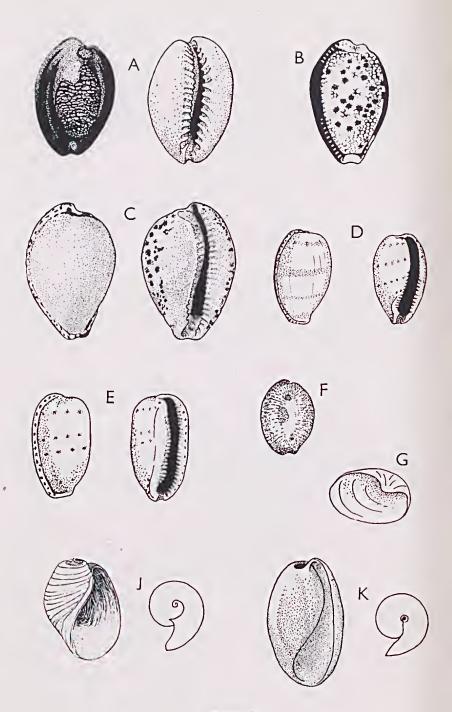


Plate 8

SECTION IV

1.	Shell not completely involute, spire visible 2
2.	Shell encloses animal. Shell thick; eolumella with folds at anterior end Fam. MARGINELLIDAE See Section III, No. 20 Shell does not enclose animal. Shell very thin; eolumella without folds Fam. HYDATINIDAE Hydatina physis. 3 cm. Shell white with spiral brown lines. Alg.
3.	Aperture to one side, without teeth; shell thin
4.	Aperture width about ½ width of shell. Shell brownish Fam. BULLIDAE
	Quibulla tenuissima. 2.5 cm. Shell mottled light and dark brown, smooth, polished, thin. Animal light brown. Alg. Sd
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THE FIRST PROJAPYGIDAE FROM WESTERN AUSTRALIA, WITH SOME ADDITIONAL NOTES ON THE FAMILY AND ITS ALLIES

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During my survey of the soil fauna of the Kimberley Division in February, 1954, one specimen of the family Projapygidae was extracted from a soil sample collected on the bank of the Ord River opposite Ivanhoe Station. This specimen, identified as Symphylurinus sp. nov., eonstitutes the first record of the family from Western Australia and the second record from Australia.

The Projapygidae have a world-wide distribution; the genus Symphylurinus is known from China, India, West Africa and Brazil. The first representative (Symphylurinus swani Wom.) of this family from Australia was eollected as recently as 1945 by Mr. D. C. Swan at Atherton, north Queensland (Womersley, 1945).

The family, established by Cook in 1896, was founded on specimens (Projapux stylifer Cook) collected from humus in a tropical rain forest in Liberia. The phylogenetic significance of the family, with its suggestive similarities to the Symphyla as well as to the Campodeidae and the Japygidae, was quickly realised, particularly by Silvestri (1901). Verhoeff (1903) questioned the validity of the new family, eonsidering the described species to be no more than juvenile forms of certain japygids. By examining several specimens Silvestri (1905) produced ample evidence to justify its retention, The Projapygidae is now accepted by all entomologists.

At the beginning of the century the Projapygidae was placed in the order Thysanura, together with the silver fish (family Lepis-

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